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PATENT  
450100-04731

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Toshichika URUSHIBARA et al.  
Serial No.: Filed Concurrently Herewith  
International Application No.: PCT/JP03/08394  
International Filing Date: July 2, 2003  
For: RECORDING APPARATUS AND METHOD,  
RECORDING MEDIUM, AND PROGRAM

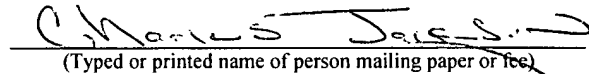
745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

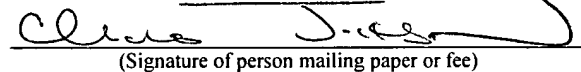
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

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Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows: